

# DOVER POST

January 12, 2005

## News Briefs

### State warns of tsunami scams

The state's Department of Technology and Information, in conjunction with the state Attorney General's office has issued a warning to all Delawareans regarding computer scams, spam and fraud related to the recent tsunami disaster in Southeast Asia.

"It's tragic and unfortunate that unscrupulous people are using the tsunami disaster for purposes of fraud," said DTI spokesman Thomas Jarrett. "We want to be certain that our citizens do not fall prey to fraudulent websites masquerading as charitable organizations or spam promising the sharing of bank accounts of relatives in affected countries."

The Attorney General's office advises all Delawareans to beware of solicitations that may not be from legitimate charities. Some fraudulent charities have been known to use look-alike websites or sound-alike names. In addition, persons should never give out personal financial information over the phone or email, and should avoid cash donations, instead making checks payable to the charity.

Independent verification of charities can be made at [www.guidestar.com](http://www.guidestar.com).